

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 9-16, and 19-25 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 20, and 25 have been amended; and Claim 8 has been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement; Claims 9, 20, and 25 were objected to as containing informalities; Claims 1-5, 7, 10, 13, 19, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,096,406 B2, hereinafter “Kanazawa”) in view of Hwang (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,399 B1) and further in view of Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,813,184 B2); Claims 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanazawa, Hwang, and Lee as applied above and further in view of Katayama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,339,546 B1, hereinafter “Katayama”). Claims 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, and 21-24 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Responsive to the rejection of Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement, Claim 25 has been amended to recite “a second clock signal . . . or a read-enable signal.” It is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 25 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Responsive to the objection to Claim 9, Claim 9 has been amended to depend from Claim 20. Responsive to the objection to Claim 20, the language “the read data to the host” has been deleted from the claim. Finally, responsive to the objection to Claim 25, “a third

clock signal" has been changed to "a second clock signal." It is respectfully requested that the objections to Claims 9, 20, and 25 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Responsive to the rejections of Claims 1-7, 10, 12, 13, 15, 19, 20, and 25 based on cited references, the allowable subject matter of canceled Claim 8 has been incorporated into independent Claim 1. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 1-7, 10, 12, 13, 15, 19, 20, and 25 based on cited references is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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